12/24/77

Dear Phil,

Thanks very much for the clips on the dismissals in Jerry Ray's frivolous lawsuit.

However, with McMillan personally and Little,Brown remaining undismissed I think Jerry (meaning Jimmy et al) still retains his major interest, exercising discovery vs. McMillan.

Because it really is not a story outside Memphis I've seen no stories and had heard of none. I presume UPI's was for its regional wire only.

If you kept any stories on the release of the FBI's JFK records and if you see any relating to the coming releases I'd appreciate them because I am in court over them. My first requests for this stuff under FOIA date to 1968. Hoover approved the violation of FOIA to deny me the records. I still do not have them.

You have a note of which you may not have a copy on one of the clips: Know anything on NEW Mark Lane book? Lane in Memphis recently to interview 'witnesses' cited in Enquirer."

I know about Gracie but not the other "witness." Can you inform?

I had not heard of any new Lane book.

If I hear anything I'll let you and Wayne know because as I think is now obvious any connection with any Lane writing can be self-defamation. If he quoted Kay accurately it is worse than if he didn't. She was so wrong in so many ways.

Sorry Wayne appears to be put out on several counts. Please tell him again that I was correct on the sausage and eggs man and my purpose was to help Wayne not hurt him.

I also did not know that Jimmy had filed against Kershaw. I'm not surprised. What he alleges about Kershaw's commercialization is probably true. I'd heard reports along those lines, including the T-shirt deal, months ago.

Poor Jimmy! He can't find enough frying-pans and he is inevitable then attracted to the fire. He'll never believe how much harm he has done himself in the past three years or so. And the House report will be the greatest blow. He really expects something good of it.

I have a number of reports that they may not issue any report at the traditional time, which is really now or the first days of the new session. But if they do they have already decided that Jimmy is guilty, their initial presumption, and they wonder only about the possibility of coconspirators. Good sources.

I was fascinated that the C-A had a scoop on your governor's private life. I though of McEachern and the FBI immediately. And that if he said nothing else what Blanton said on the Good Morning America show on which I was with him is more than enough for them to want to get him. He was highly and probably justifiably critical of their messing aound back in June when Jimmy escaped.

I haven't seen the stories but I did catch some of the net TV play.

Hope you all have a good year ahead. Best,